



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDEPENDENCE MEN INDICTED IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that two men were indicted by a federal grand jury today for conspiring to manufacture meth.

Joshua L. Shrout, 27, of Independence, and **Jason A. Veach** 24, of Independence, were charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Shrout** and **Veach** conspired to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between Aug. 1, 2004, and Oct. 26, 2004.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Shrout** and **Veach** aided and abetted each other in an attempt to manufacture five grams or more of methamphetamine on Oct. 26, 2004.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force, the Independence, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Kansas City Metropolitan Drug Task Force and the Independence, Mo., Fire Department.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal jury, whose duty is to determine guilty or innocence.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow